5 <u>ABSTRACT</u>

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A lateral mooring system for tendon-based platforms is disclosed, which provides reduced installation and/or operational cost associated with the installation and operation of an extended-base tension leg platform. The lateral mooring system includes a plurality of mooring lines that provide lateral support to the platform in mild metocean conditions, but may have application in more severe oceanic condition. A method for installing the system on the platform and a method for drilling wells on a offshore site.